

Fall 1997

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John M. Pfau Library

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Recommended Citation

John M. Pfau Library, "Fall 1997" (1997). *Peacock – John M. Pfau Library Newsletter*. Paper 21.
<http://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/peacock/21>

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JOHN M. PFAU LIBRARY Newsletter

California State University, San Bernardino

<http://www.lib.csusb.edu>

Fall 1997

A MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

Welcome to the Pfau Library and our 32nd year of service. Opening in September 1965 with a collection of only 50,000 volumes, the Pfau Library today houses 612,000 volumes, occupies 128,688 square feet and provides many technological services. Our purpose in publishing the *John M. Pfau Library Newsletter* is to announce special library events, focus on topics of interest, and keep you informed of goals and plans.

We hope you will enjoy sharing in the many activities, changes, and innovations the library will be experiencing in the coming months and years, and we do have much to share. A new online public access catalog, HORIZON, is being introduced this fall quarter. HORIZON offers a different "look" than our old KeyNOTIS system and will offer considerably more options for searching. HORIZON has a Windows-based interface inside the library and will soon have a Web interface for users outside the library.

HORIZON is our first step toward the long-awaited 'one-stop research terminal' or 'scholar's workstation' where the user will be able to search via one interface for bibliographic and full-text information from a variety of databases housed at CSUSB, within the CSU system, or elsewhere on the Internet. This service, part of the CSU system-wide Unified Information Access Service (UIAS) project, should be forthcoming within the next 18-24 months.

You can access the Pfau Library through our home page at <http://www.lib.csusb.edu>. There you will find a cornucopia of resources: general information such as library hours and services, our online catalog and other electronic resources, Internet search tools, Internet resources organized by subject, access to libraries and universities worldwide, featured sites, and more. Links on information competency and how to use the Internet will be added soon. Please check our web site out. We believe you will be pleased.

The library is midway through a seismic retrofit project of the original building, which was constructed in the late 1960's. Funded by the state, the project enhances the structural support of the building. We apologize for any inconveniences associated with the project and look forward to its completion in the fall of 1998.

We look forward to a year full of challenges and changes. We hope that you do, too, and that we share a productive, fulfilling year.

Johnnie Ann Ralph
Johnnie Ann Ralph

The Evolving World of Scholarly Journals, OR WHAT IS EBSCOhost ANYWAY?

By Susan Tschabrun, Reference/Electronic Resources Librarian

After several years of false starts, most publishers of scholarly journals are now rushing to offer their journal subscriptions in electronic form. Reflecting this trend, a growing percentage of Pfau Library's journal holdings are available in both print and electronic format, or in electronic format alone. Students love the easy accessibility of electronic journal collections, but librarians and experienced researchers find that electronic journals sometimes fail to satisfactorily replace their print counterparts. However, electronic journals are still in a phase of rapid evolution, and we may expect improvements to come very quickly.

The phenomenal growth of the World Wide Web is the main factor encouraging publishers to make the leap into electronic publishing. The World Wide Web solved many of the problems which had plagued early efforts to deliver journal literature electronically: the software needed (a browser, like Netscape) is already ubiquitous providing an interface familiar to many academics and students, and the cost of storing the data at the local institution no longer exists because data is accessed remotely over the Internet.



Project Muse, IDEAL and EBSCOhost

Pfau Library's electronic journal subscriptions currently fall into two main types: those offered directly through the publishers like Project Muse and IDEAL, and those offered by the publishers through an intermediary, like EBSCOhost. In the first category, Johns Hopkins University Press makes its 44 journals in the humanities and social sciences available electronically through Project Muse, while Academic Press offers 177 of its mostly scientific journals through IDEAL. Although an improvement over the single journal web site, the delivery of electronic journals grouped by publisher is likely to be a transitional phase. Imagine the chaos of a system in which every publisher offered their own journals individually. Instead of a handful of specialized indexes, students and scholars would have to search dozens, maybe hundreds of Project Muses and IDEALS one by one.

A more lasting delivery mode for electronic journals is likely to be on the EBSCOhost model. EBSCO is a company long known to libraries as a "jobber" (or subscription agent) for journal and magazine publishers. It was a natural move for EBSCO to offer many of these same subscriptions electronically. Pfau Library's current subscription to EBSCOhost provides users with links from EBSCO's indexing and abstracting service to the full text of 1423 journals and magazines, a far larger number than any single publisher could offer. Furthermore, by linking the full text of articles to a traditional bibliographic index with its subjects and abstracts, users have a sophisticated searching infrastructure which makes locating articles easier. Students enjoy the ease of sitting down at a workstation, typing in a subject term, and instantly printing or downloading articles at their workstations, or e-mailing them to their e-mail accounts.

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The John M. Pfau
Library Newsletter
is published bi-yearly in
fall and spring quarters.

Editor:
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The obvious advantages of searching an electronic journal collection like EBSCOhost can obscure the problems which remain to be ironed out if serious researchers are to fully embrace electronic journals. Students frequently leave the library without adequate information to cite the journal articles they pull off EBSCOhost in their research papers because the full text version of the article, unlike the abstract version, prints out without crucial citation information, such as the names of authors. At the present time, both Project Muse and EBSCOhost deliver full text articles in plain ASCII text without photographs, illustrations, original graphs and charts, special symbols, typographical formatting, or page numbers; in short, without much of the information of the original printed article.

IDEAL solves the problem of lost information with PDF (Portable Document Format) files. Clicking on a PDF file while in IDEAL opens another software program, Adobe's Acrobat Reader, which can display and print a version of the article very much like the original printed one. Working with PDF files, however, requires that Acrobat Reader be downloaded from the Adobe web site, www.adobe.com/acrobat/, and the hardware requirements for working with PDF files are also greater. After waiting to print out a couple of memory-hungry PDF files, users often long for plain vanilla ASCII text. Nevertheless, EBSCO and many other companies are moving rapidly to offer their electronic journals in PDF format because of their greater resemblance to the printed originals.


Electronic Journals and the Future

Electronic journals have clearly arrived and are here to stay, but what will their impact be? Many in the academic community dared to hope that electronic publishing of scholarly journals would rein in the

spiraling price inflation which has wrecked such havoc on library budgets and led to the wholesale slashing of journal subscriptions during recent years. While there have been a few instances where publishers like Stanford University's HighWire Press have a stated aim of using the new medium to return scholarly publishing to its non-commercial origins, it has already become apparent that price inflation in the double digits will continue to be the norm for electronic as well as print journals. Indeed, Pfau Library has been able to increase its electronic journal holdings only because of the special discounted pricing available to large consortia like the CSU system.

On a more positive note, it is also becoming evident that many of electronic publishing's current shortcomings will disappear rather quickly as technology continues to evolve and the new electronic medium is better exploited. The ability of the PDF format to deliver an electronic journal article on a par with the printed original has already been mentioned, but the electronic format promises to deliver far more than paper ever can, including sound, video, virtual reality and simulation. No one can say how long the new medium will take to reach maturity, but in the meantime, we may expect to experience both the satisfactions and frustrations of a promising, but still evolving innovation.

Adams, Mignon. "Scientific Journals Online: Five Emerging Models." *Library Issues: Briefings for Faculty and Administrators* 17 (July, 1997): 1-4.
Barnes, John H. "One Giant Leap, One Small Step: Continuing the Migration to Electronic Journals." *Library Trends* 45, 3 (1997): 404-415.
Ketcham, Lee, and Kathleen Born. "Unsettled time, unsettled prices." *Library Journal* 122, 7 (1997): 42-48.

Out of Pfau Library's total 3240 subscriptions, 1428 titles are available in both formats and 874 titles are available in electronic format alone. 

EBSCOhost, IDEAL, or Project MUSE are available on the Pfau Library home page (www.lib.csusb.edu). Select Resources by Subject, then General/Interdisciplinary, and Electronic Periodicals. These subscription services can only be accessed from campus computers.



California State University, San Bernardino Pfau Library Associates cordially invite you to a lecture on the Citrus, Labor and Community oral history project and the Mexican-descendant community of East San Bernardino Valley.

Guest Lecturer:

Robert Gonzales

Tuesday, November 18, 1997
12:00pm
Pfau Library - PL 4005A
Reception Follows

Co-sponsored by:
Diversity Committee, CSUSB
History Club & History Department, CSUSB
Association of Latino Faculty, Staff & Students, CSUSB

LOST IN HORIZON? FIND YOUR WAY IN THE INFO DEN

By Les Kong Head, Library Public Services

Puzzled by the ins and outs of the Library's new online catalog, HORIZON? Users can now visit the Info Den, located on the fifth floor of the Library Addition, PL-5005, for drop-in workshops on the best ways to navigate the system. These workshops, conducted by reference staff, will provide basic instruction in the search techniques of HORIZON as well as instruction in the popular Lexis-Nexis and Dow Jones New Retrieval systems. Drop-in workshops are being offered in the Info Den instruction room (PL-5005M) once a day every weekday. (See calendar)

What is the Info Den?

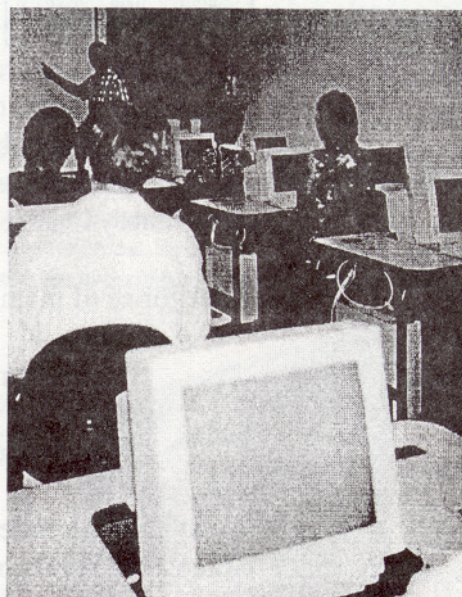
The Info Den is an area where more assistance on library research databases is provided. There are 8 workstations (available to eligible users on a sign-in basis) in the Info Den which allow access to the Internet as well as a variety of electronic information resources, including Lexis-Nexis and EBSCOhost. Other materials available for use in this area include educational software, music compact discs and tapes, and the library's software collection.

When is the Info Den available?

The Info Den is open Mondays through Thursdays 1 p.m.-6 p.m., Fridays 1 p.m.-5 p.m., and is closed on weekends during the fall quarter.

Who is eligible to use the Info Den?

Current CSUSB faculty and staff (campus photo identification required)



as well as currently enrolled CSUSB students (campus photo and current quarterly identifications required).

Questions concerning the policies and use of the Info Den may be directed to Les Kong at 880-5111, or via e-mail at lkong@wiley.csusb.edu.

LIBRARY HOURS

Library

Monday-Thursday
8am-11pm
Friday
8am-5pm
Saturday
9am-5pm
Sunday
2pm-11pm

Reference Desk (First Floor)

Monday-Thursday
9am-9pm
Friday
9am-5pm
Saturday
9am-5pm
Sunday
2pm-6pm

Info Den (Fifth Floor)

Monday-Thursday
1pm-6pm
Friday
1pm-5pm
Saturday
Closed
Sunday
Closed

Periodicals Service Desk (Third Floor)

Monday-Thursday
1pm-9pm
Friday
1pm-5pm
Saturday
9am-1:30pm
Sunday
2pm-6pm

REAPPEARANCE OF EXTINCT CALIFORNIA NATIVE

By Bonnie Petry, Reference Librarian



A very special exhibit is coming to the Pfau Library this fall quarter. Under the supervision of Dr. Stuart Sumida, and in association with Dr. Elizabeth Rega and her students from the Joint Science Department of the Claremont Colleges, CSUSB students have prepared and mounted the skeleton of a dire wolf, an extinct species of wolf, from the La Brea tar pits in Los Angeles.

The dire wolf, *Canis dirus*, was a common inhabitant of the Pleistocene Epoch (approximately 1,600,000-10,000 years ago). About the size of the modern gray wolf, the dire wolf had a much heavier build. These carnivores were probably hunters as well as scavengers. Specimens recovered from the La Brea tar pits were deposited approximately 15,000 to 40,000 years ago.

In Pleistocene La Brea, thirsty herbivores stopping for a drink at what appeared to be an ordinary pond actually stepped into a spring of crude oil and became hopelessly trapped in sticky tar. These helpless animals were a powerful and deadly lure for carnivores seeking an easy meal. Numerous scavengers also became trapped in the tar and perished alongside their intended meals. This sad scenario and its variations played itself out over and over again resulting in the rich fossil beds at La Brea.

In addition to the dire wolf and some other Pleistocene specimens, examples of Dr. Sumida's discoveries from the early Permian era of eastern Germany will also be on display. These fossils are between 280 and 300 million years old, and provide evidence that the European and North American continents were once united forming a much larger continent known as Pangea. The Permian fossils and other finds discovered by Dr. Sumida and his colleagues will be highlighted in the November 1997 issue of *National Geographic*.

These fossils will be on display in the library during the fall and winter quarters. There will also be a reception honoring Dr. Stuart Sumida and his students November 5th from 1-3 p.m. in PL-4005, with a guided tour of the exhibit, presentations, and refreshments.

CALENDAR

Special Events

November 5 1:00-3:00 p.m. PL-4005A Reception in honor of Dr. Sumida and his students, including guided tour of dire wolf exhibit, presentations and refreshments.

November 18 12:00 noon PL-4005A Citrus, Labor, and Community lecture by Robert Gonzales. Reception follows.

Drop-in Horizon, Lexis-Nexis, and Dow Jones Workshops

The drop-in workshops are open to CSUSB faculty, staff and students and do not require prior sign-up. They will take place every weekday during the fall quarter, from Sept. 29-Dec. 5, except 11/3, 11/27, 11/28, and 12/1.

M-W-F 2:00-3:00 p.m. PL-5005M Horizon and Lexis-Nexis training

T-Th 1:30-2:30 p.m. PL-5005M Horizon and Dow Jones News Retrieval training



John M. Pfau Library Associates

The Library Associates was founded to promote the relationship between the university, its library, and the community, increase public awareness of the resources and services of the John M. Pfau Library, and sponsor cultural programs such as exhibits, lectures and other events. Members of the Library Associates make full use of the library, including borrowing library materials on the same basis as CSUSB students, reference assistance, and low cost interlibrary loan service.

Categories of membership:

Single/Family	\$20.00 per year
Business	\$50.00 per year
Life Member	\$100

Membership applications are available at the Pfau Library Circulation Desk, or call (909) 880-5090.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN BERNARDINO

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